

MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION/ROUNDTABLE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA
YUMA CITY HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM 190
ONE CITY PLAZA, YUMA, ARIZONA
JULY 6, 2010
3:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Krieger called the City Council meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Stuart, Mendoza, McClendon, Brooks-Gurrola, Johnson and Mayor Krieger
Councilmembers Absent: Beeson
Staffmembers Present: City Administrator, Greg Wilkinson
Various Department Heads or their representative
City Clerk, Lynda L. Bushong

I. HISTORIC CITY OF YUMA AIRPLANE

Wilkinson began the discussion by drawing attention to a concept diagram showing how it is proposed that the historic airplane, named the *City of Yuma*, would be installed in the lobby of City Hall. The diagram shows the tail wheel of the plane resting above the front doors of City Hall, with the nose and front wheels facing south, toward the middle of the building. The propeller and part of the nose would extend into the 2nd floor walkway above the lobby.

The City Council had a general discussion of the matter. **Mayor Krieger** gave individuals in the audience the opportunity to speak in support of the plan, to explain the plane's history and/or answer questions. Jim Gillaspie, Garth Worthen, Rob Campbell, Bill Cox, Paul Rachels and Bobby Brooks, all members of Yuma Jaycees, spoke and/or responded to questions. Highlights follow:

- Why isn't the plane facing the entry doors?
 - There isn't enough room for the nose to stick out over the columns that support the front of the building.
 - The concept shows the most cost effective way of displaying the plane; any other orientation or method – facing the front or suspended from the ceiling – would cost significantly more to accommodate.
 - Some thought has been given to constructing a structure over the front doors to protect them from the wind and rain, which could accommodate realignment of the plane in the lobby.
- Who owns the plane?
 - The Yuma Jaycees deeded the plane to the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Corporation.
- Where is it currently located?
 - It is currently being stored at Sandbar Boat and RV Storage at 16th Street and Pacific Avenue.
 - The facility is not a good place to store the plane because there is no humidity, temperature or dust control.
- What will the installation cost, who will pay for it and how long would it take?

- The installation, as proposed by the diagram, would cost approximately \$18,000 and the Yuma Jaycees have pledged to provide all the funding.
- Installation would take 30-45 days.
- Wouldn't another venue be a better place to display the plane?
 - An appropriate place has been sought since the plane was brought back to Yuma in 1997.
 - The once-proposed Welcome Center would have been the perfect place, but this project has been put on hold indefinitely by the State due to lack of funding.
 - There are few viable options.
 - John Peach's facility was considered, but it will not work.
 - Outside
 - The plane will deteriorate if left outside in the sun and subjected to dust; it is made of fabric, wood and metal.
 - Placing the plane under an awning in the City Hall Atrium is a possibility
 - At the Crossing Park
 - The Arizona State Parks, Historic Preservation Office ruled some years ago that the plane did not fit with the theme of the Yuma Crossing.
 - The City is now operating the park, though under the auspices of State Parks, couldn't its display there be reconsidered?
 - The only place it would fit would be the warehouse, which also does not have a controlled atmosphere.
 - It fits with a general transportation theme, which used to be the primary focus of the park.
 - State Parks could be re-approached; they have been responding favorably to the City's request for expedited decisions.
 - City Hall is not a tourist spot – not many people would see it.
 - The City Hall installation would be temporary – perhaps 10 years.
 - Housing the plane in City Hall is the best option available and much better than it being hidden away in poor conditions.
 - Money to remove the plane would have to be set aside by the Jaycees for its eventual relocation.
 - The plane will attract people to City Hall.
 - The plane rightfully belongs in the airport terminal and should have been placed there when the new terminal was constructed, but the Yuma County Airport Authority did not want it.
 - Airport officials offered to install it in the new General Aviation building, if the Jaycees would pay \$40,000.
 - The Smithsonian Museum asked for the plane, but the community declined.
- This plane is the reason the military chose to locate in Yuma; it demonstrated that Yuma had 1,124 consecutive days of good flying weather.
 - The record-breaking flight of 1,124 days took place in 1949.
 - The plane is a City treasure.
 - A book has been written about the event.
- How would the Jaycees raise the money to install the plane in City Hall?
 - The Jaycees propose creating an *1124 Club*, consisting of those interested in the plane and who would buy a membership for \$1,124; each would receive a commemorative coin with the City of Yuma logo on one side and a picture of the plane on the reverse.

- The support structures could be designed to easily accommodate removal so the plane could be displayed at various community events throughout the year.
- The support columns could display information about the plane and list members of the 1124 Club.

II. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

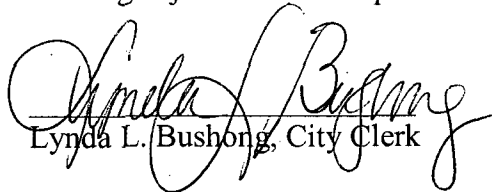
Bushong stated that tonight's discussion is a follow up of a briefing to the City Council on May 4, 2010, wherein certain changes were proposed. The discussion centered on consolidating boards and/or commissions where appropriate and standardizing terms.

- More broadly define oversight to allow for consolidation.
- If boards/commissions are consolidated, there could be more members. Having more members might alleviate quorum difficulties and give more flexibility to members.
- Meeting less often may make the meetings more productive.
- Standardize terms
 - All terms to last 5 years
 - All terms to expire at the end of the calendar year.
 - Making all terms expire at once would accommodate a single recruitment period each year.
- Possible impediments
 - Each board/commission has individual governing documents, such as bylaws or intergovernmental agreements, which will have to be amended.
 - Some boards/commissions cannot be consolidated; the Tree Board must remain a stand alone board in order for the City to remain a designated Tree City USA.
 - Some boards/commissions constitute the governing oversight of a specific activity, such as the Water and Sewer Commission's oversight of the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds.
 - Any number of members over 7 becomes problematic.

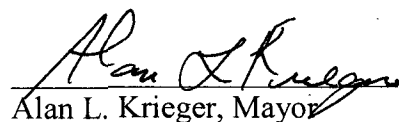
Wilkinson stated that a proposed ordinance would return to the City Council for consideration.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

Motion (Mendoza/McClendon): To adjourn to Executive Session. Voice vote: **adopted** 6-0; The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.


Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:


Alan L. Krieger, Mayor

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| Approved at the City Council Meeting of: <u>September 29, 2010</u> |
| City Clerk: <u>Lynda L. Bushong</u> |